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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Office of Congressional Affairs Washington, D.C. 20505 Telephone: 482-6136

TO: Mr. Randy Scheunemann, Legislative Assistant c/o The Honorable Dave Durenberger 154 SROB

13 July 1987

Randy:

I am attaching the report that answered our Freedom of Information Act request F 81-0647 that you inquired about. Also attached is the Agency's 1987 annual report to Congress under the FOIA. I hope these will be helpful to you.

Attachments

FORM 1533 OBSOLETE PREVIOUS EDITIONS (40)

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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington D C 20505

28 FEB 1987 OIS 87-019

The Honorable George Bush President of the Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. President:

Submitted herewith, pursuant to the provisions of 5 U.S.C. \$552(d), is the report of the Central Intelligence Agency concerning its administration of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) during calendar year 1986.

This was another year of achievement in terms of our commitment to reduce our backlog of requests for information. Despite an increase of 10 percent in the number of incoming requests, compared with the number received in 1985 (3094 compared with 2804), we were able to complete 3580 requests. Our backlog of 1661 cases at the end of 1985 was thus reduced to 1175 at the end of 1986, a reduction of 29 percent. Of the 3094 new requests, 1526 were FOIA cases, 1312 were "my file" requests processed under the Privacy Act, and 256 were for mandatory review under Executive Order 12356.

The Agency's semi-annual reports to Congress, required by the CIA Information Act, have been sent for the last two years to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and the House Committee on Government Operations. In those reports we included statistics for the median response time in handling FOIA requests. Representative English, Chairman of the Government Information, Justice, and Agriculture Subcommittee of the Committee on Government Operations, found that statistic particularly useful in assessing our performance and asked that we continue to include our response time in the annual reports. For the FOIA cases on which responses were completed in 1986, the median response time was 3.24 months. This is a considerable improvement over the median response time of 9.2 months reported in October 1985 for the period of March to September 1985. October 1985 was the first time this calculation was made.

The CIA Information Act has contributed significantly to the reduction of both our backlog and our response time because Intelligence Officers no longer have to spend time reviewing a large volume of unreleasable operational documents. They can now devote their efforts to documents that possibly can be released, thus speeding up the processing of requests that have some potential for adding to the public's knowledge. We have also concentrated part of

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